

## Rockcastle Area Trails



**London Ranger District • Daniel Boone National Forest • Kentucky** 



#### London District 761 S. Laurel Road London, KY 40744

London, KY 4074 606-864-4163



#### **Directions**

From I-75, take exit 38 and travel west on KY 192 for 13.9 miles. Turn south (left) on KY 1193 for 1 one, turn west on KY 3497, go 6 miles to the ends of the road.



#### **Open Dates**

Trails open all year.
Campground open
mid April to mid
November, call district
for exact dates.



#### Fees

No fee for trail use.



## Picnic Shelter

Located in Rockcastle Campground.



### Restrooms

Vault toilet at boat ramp parking year round.



#### Accessibility

This trail does not meet accessibility standards for persons with disabilities.



Trails are closed to motorized vehicles.



Consumption of alcohol and open containers of alcohol are prohibited.



Camping and firebuilding in rock shelters is prohibited.

Guides like this are available at fs.usda.gov/dbnf. 12/23/2014



#### Lakeside North Trail #411

Lakeside North Trail, located on London Ranger District, begins on the north side of Ned's Branch, 1/4-mile north of the Rockcastle Campground. It follows the Rockcastle River until the trail ends. The first half of the trail is fairly wide. Wildflowers are abundant in the spring.

Begins: Intersection with Ned's

Branch Trail 1/4 mile north of Rockcastle Campgound

.7 miles north of Ned's

Branch Trail #405

Length: 1 mile Surface: Dirt

Ends:

Parking: At campground

Closest Town: Corbin
Quad: Sawyer
County: Laurel
Latitude: 36.965906
Longitude: -84.338393

#### Lakeside South Trail #412

This trail is currently impassable due to fallen trees across the trail. Check with the London Ranger District for more information.

This trail begins off of KY 3497, 21 miles west of London near the Rockcastle Boat Ramp. The trail ends with its connection to Twin Branch Trail #406. The trail follows the shoreline of Lake Cumberland. Hikers will enjoy the shade of huge hemlocks and beech trees along the way. The trail passes through a small community of summer homes known as Clark's Bottom. A small shelter is located at the trail's junction with Twin Branch Trail.

Begins: KY 3497 near Rockcastle

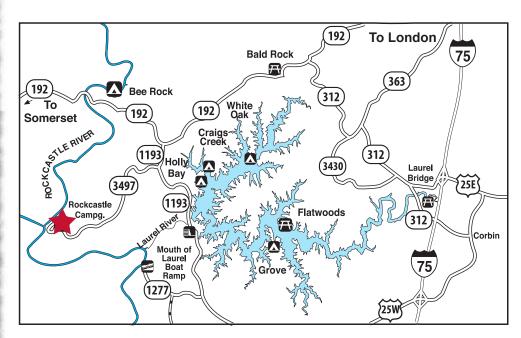
**Boat Ramp** 

Ends: Twin Branch Trail #406

County: Laurel
Length: 4 miles
Surface: Dirt

Parking: Rockcastle Boat Ramp

Closest Town: Corbin
Quad: Sawyer
Latitude: 36.957299
Longitude: -84.355216





U.S. Department of Agriculture - Forest Service Southern Region - Daniel Boone National Forest http://www.fs.usda.gov/dbnf

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Under Supervisor's Order, visitors in developed sites must store food, garbage and other odorous items that may attract bears in a bearresistant container, inside their vehicle, or in an enclosed hard-body trailer. Backcountry campers must suspend food, garbage and odorous items at least 10 feet off the ground and four feet away from any tree or pole. All food leftovers and trash must be properly disposed of in a bear-resistant trash receptacle or other container where provided by the Forest Service.



Put trash in a bearresistant trash can or other receptacle provided by the Forest Service.

Store food and trash in a closed motor vehicle

with a solid top or a closed hard-body trailer.





Store food, trash and other bear attractants in a bear-resistant container.



Hang food and trash from a tree, out of a bear's reach in backcountry areas where bear-resistant trash cans and vehicles are not nearby.

#### Ned Branch Trail #405

A hike on Ned Branch is downhill all the way if it is hiked from KY 3497. The trail drops 300 feet through a gorge carved out by the trail's namesake. There are several stream crossings along the way, but hikers should be able to make most of them without getting their feet wet. The last quarter mile of trail passes through a stand of large beech and buckeye trees. Trail difficulty is easy to moderate if hiked from the highway to the campground, strenuous if hiked in reverse. During the winter when the campground gate is closed, walk out the campground entrance road, adding a half mile to the walk.

Begins: KY 3497

Rockcastle Campground

Parking:

4 cars at trailhead, 55 cars at campground boat ramp

Ends: 1.75 miles Length:

Easy to strenuous Difficulty:

Quad: Sawyer County: Laurel

Latitude: 36.958671 Longitude: -84.332815

Surface: Dirt

#### Twin Branch Trail #406

The first quarter mile winds through pine-hardwood forest. The trail then drops 300 feet to follow Twin Branch to its mouth at Lake Cumberland. Several scenic cascades may be seen along the way, best viewed in the spring when the creek has plenty of water. An adirondack shelter is located near the junction with the Lake Side South Trail. A primitive campsite is located on the east side of Twin Branch. All water should be boiled. Please pack out your trash. Hiking difficulty is easy to moderate downhill, strenuous when hiked in reverse

Begins: KY 3497 Parking: 4 cars at Ned Branch Trailhead

Ends: Lakeside South #412 Difficulty: Easy to strenuous

Length: 1 mile County: Laurel Surface: Dirt

Quad: Sawyer Latitude: 36.958671 Longitude: -84.332815

## **Rockcastle Campground**

Rockcastle Campground is located on the backwaters of Lake Cumberland at the mouth of the Rockcastle River. The campground is bounded on one side by the lake and on the other side by massive sandstone cliffs. Fishing is popular in the Rockcastle River and Lake Cumberland. Rockcastle Boat Ramp is nearby. A picnic shelter is located at the campground entrance and is available on a first-come, first-served basis. Most of the campsites are designed for tent camping although a few are large enough to accommodate pop-up campers. Each site has tent pad, grill, picnic table, and lantern poles. The sites are near the water's edge. A picnic shelter is available on a first-come, first-served basis.



**CAUTION:** Low lying areas are prone to flooding, so be alert for flooding when driving, camping or crossing streams in this area. Swift currents and undertows can make swimming and wading very hazardous.



All outdoor activities have inherent risks and you may encounter a variety of unexpected and/or dangerous conditions. It is your responsibility to be informed and take precautions. Learn more at www.fs.usda.gov/r8.

